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Forbes Family History

Swinging Thru The Branches

Volume I, No.1

The Forbes Family

To paraphrase a poem about another family:

"Under the spreading chestnut tree,
The village smithy stands,'
Oh there's a Forbes for you and me,
Which is which is the mystery."

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It is said that all families bearing the name Forbes today, are descended from Alexander of Forbes, who was governor of Urquhart Castle in 1303. We will not enter into the Clan History in this newsletter. That is best left for the Clan Forbes Society, who does its utmost to provide its members with accurate information about the past. Much of that history has beeen written by the Clan Chiefs and their families. One of the downfalls of a person searching their roots is to tie up with a famous person of the same name, and come up with connecting information.Indeed the searchers of my own tree, tell me that I am related to Anne Boleyn, on both my maternal and paternal sides. That's lovely, but I have seen very ornate lineage charts hanging on walls, and later blank spots on those same walls, so I remind you that without proper doumentation, these are worthless. And I remind you also, that tenants living around a manor have oftentimes taken the name of the Lord of the Manor. This happened in medieval times, as ell as during this country's period of slavedom. No less man lived outside than inside the castle; just a man with a different set of circumstances. Information gathered from sources such as this, from censuses and even Bible records, are places for you to get information needed to obtain the necessary documentation.

We must also inform all you loyal Scots, that there are Irish Forbes as well. When a tall, kilted friend of mine from Arbroth, Scotland told his son that "Grannie was Irish.", I thought I might see one of those battles the Scots are famous for. "Nay, Da, I'm a SCOT!", the young man said. Be that as it may - The Forbes of Castle Forbes, County Langford (Earls of Granford) settled there in 1620, from Scotland. However, in Connech they may be of the Sept of MacFirbish, whose name was Anglicised - Forbes. These were heritary historians to the O'Dowds and had special privileges. The most distinguished of them was Donal Mac Firbis (1585-1670). A Celt is a Celt, for a' that? (Sorry, Robbie.)

And we begin :
"Colonial Georgia - A Study in British Imperial Policy in the Eighteenth Century", by Trevor R. Reese, Pub by Univ. of GA Press, Athens 1963;

P. 97 "**Brigadier- General John Forbes** was to repair to one of the southern provinces in order to concert 'any such offensive operations as may be judged by him most expedient for annoying the enemy, and most efficious towards removing and repelling the dangers that threaten the frontiers of any of the southern colonies on the continent of America.".{The above was during the Seven years War Between the French and British in America. The Earl of Loudon arrived July 1756 to command the army.}

***

"The Continental Army" by Robert K. Wright, Jr., pub. 1983 by U.S. Army Center of Military History.
p.26 "In 1758 he {**George Washinton**} commanded a brigade composed of Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania units on **John Forbes**' expedition against Fort Duquesne...Exposure to Forbes' idea on adapting European tactics to the American wilderness also contributed significantly to his military education.'

p. 128 "Two exceptional British generals exherted important influence on American thinking during the French and Indian War. **Henri Bouquet** (a Swiss serving in the British Army) and **John Forbes**, faced with the problem of operating with a regular army in the North American Wilderness, used *Lancelot*, Comte Turpin *de Crisse's Commentaries* and Marshall Saxe's *Reveries* for inspiration. Those French writers had argued that Roman History demonstrated that regular line infantry could function in broken terrain if they also served as light infantry. Forbes based his 1758 campaign, in which Washington served as bridge commander, on this concept, and Bouquet later refined it."

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Conferate Military History: P. 193 "...The famous fight with the battalion, under **Major Forbes**, near the old Zion church in Fauquier county, which resulted in the wiping out of the federal battalion and the capture of its commander."

p.190 " Among the dead, Tennessee mourned **Col W.A. Forbes**, Fourteenth, who was killed near the battery captured in another moment by his comrades. **A.P. Hill** referred to him as 'The brave **Colonel Forbes'. Capt. Young T. Stubblefield** and **Lieut. W. E. Forbes**, First Tennessee, were among the killed...In the brief campaign against **Pope**, the Fourteenth Tennessee lost three field officers, **Forbes, Harrell** and **Morris."**

p. 270 "**Captain Joseph Harris Forbes**, of Annapolis, Md., son of **Col. George Forbes** and **Mary Eleanor Harris**, was born in St. Mary's county, MD., December 20, 1837, and reared from early childhood in Prince George county, same State. His ealy education was secured to him in the schools of his county and also in Charlotte Hall academy, St. Mary's county. In 1856 he entered the sophmore class of Princeton College, N.J., half advanced aand was graduated in 1858. He then went to Baltimore, read law over a year, and the early summer of 1861 at the onset of the Confederate war cast in his lot with the South by joining **{Snowden} Andrews'** battery , the First Maryland Artillery, as a private at Fredericksburg, Va. He was soon appointed quartermaster sergeant and by strict and satisfactory attention to the important duties rose to the rank of captain and assistant quartermaster, and finally received his parole at Appomattox. On his return homeward he was arrested in Washington, D.C., as many others were, but not long after he was released. Desiring to resume the duties of civil life he went by way of Charles County to his old home in St. Mary's, where he remained on a farm for about a year. Then going to Baltimore, he engaged several years in the banking business, after which he was paying teller in the bank of Commerce, Baltimore, for five years, and cashier of the Citizen's bank at Annapolis until it went into liquidation. He then held a clerkship in the

land office, and later in the comptroller's office of the State. After this varied experience in business life, during which he maintained his high character, he became successively teller ad general bookkeeper of the farmer's national bank of Annapolis and president of the Annapolis Savings institution, which later positions he fills with ability. **Col. George Forbes**, the father of **Capt. Joseph H. Forbes**, was also born in Maryland, and was a patriotic soldier in the War of 1812. **Henry Marshall Forbes**, brother of Joseph H., served during the entire Confederate war as a private in Andrews' battery, First Maryland artillery, and died in 1867. **Captain Forbes** was married in 1872 to **Mrs. Fannie Lightfoot Tayloe**, daughter of the late **William H. Fowle**, of Alexandria, VA., and the widow of **Capt. Bladen T. Tayloe**, of Virginia. There were two sons in the family, **George Forbes**, attorney at law, and **Harris Lightfoot Forbes."**

***

Colonel Wm. Archibald Forbes "Northeastern Army, 1861, from Huntsville, Alabama, 14th, Reg. **Cmdr. B. Gen. Samuel Anderson's** Tennessee Brigade 30 Apr 1862, participated at Cedar Run, killed near battery captain, by his own comrades (**A.P. Hill**).

Forbes, Col. John, Comissary-general of Texas Army under General Houston - daughter **Sarah M.** married **Gen. Haden H. Edwards**; their son, **Peyton F. Edwards** served CSA.

Forbes, James, Capt., Asst-Quartermaster, killed at Chancellorville.

Forbes, H.V., Quartermaster 15ht Reg. Ga. Volunteers, by **Col T.W. Thomas.**

Forbes, Sergeant Arthur, Co. S., 30th North Carolina Troups, parolees of the Army of Northern Virginia, surrendered at Appomattox Courthouse, Va., 9 April 1865 by **Gen. R.E. Lee.**

Forbes, E.D., Fourth Cpl., 2nd Brigade, Ga. Light Artillery, state forces at Fort-Brown

Forbes, Henry, F-21 GA, 26 Feb 1863

CSA - Alabama

Forbes,Daniel C Pvt 42 Ala Inf

D.C. Co F 2nd reg't Ala vol mil

D.C. Co. I 42 Ala Inf

Frank, Co. A, 21 Ala Inf

H.F., I 23 Ala Inf

J.S. (I.S.), battery f COnscripts and Res.

Jonah S., Co. B 8 Ala Inf

Thomas J., Co. B 60 Ala Inf

Washington J., Co. 13 Ala Inf

Forbus, G.F. Co.B, 8 Ala Inf

Thomas, Co. C 3 BAt Hillards Legion Ala Vol

T.J., Co. b 60 Ala Inf

***

Connecticut

Mary Forbes, daughter of James and Katherine of East Hartford) was born in Hartford, Connecticut. She married Daniel Gaines.

Mary Forbes (age 16 when her father died) married Caleb Gates on 6 June 1716 in Preston , Connecticut.

John Forbes died 10 November 1759 in Canaan, Connecticut. Executor was **Samuel Forbes.**

John Forbes,Captain of Brig Sturtle, wrote letter to his brother in New Haven, Conn 19 February 1768.

It was reported on 2 April 1763 that one **Captain Forbes** was taken by the French just outside Antiqua.

Rev. Forbes was pastor at Brookfield, Conn in 1774.

Thomas Forbes was wounded in the head by accidental explosion at celebration of the repeal of the Stamp Act Hartford, Conn 26 May.

General Forbes wrote essay celebrating English victories during the past year. It appeared in "The Connecticut Gazette", New Haven, 27 January 1759.

***

In the book, *Scottish Settlers in North America,* are listed: The numbers are immigration record numbers. On page 65;

Forbes, Alexander, Son of

Forbes, Alexander, Son of **John Forbes** of Culloden and **Anna Dunbar**, Married 1643. To America (HF)

Forbes, Charles, labourer, Kilmorack. From Fort William to Pictou on the Dove, Cram, June 1801.(HO**102.18)**

Forbes, John, labourer, Kiltarlity, From Fort William to Pictou on the Dove, Cram, June 1801 (Ho102.18)

Forbes, Donald, 39. Servant. Inverness. From Stornway to Philadelphis July 1775 on the Clementina, P. Brown. (T47.12)

Forbes, Donald, 18 labourer. Foss, Perth. From Oban to Charlottetown on Claredon, J. Hines, 6 August 1808 (CO226.23)

Forbes, George, Son of **Thomas and Margaret Forbes**. Deer. Merchant and writer in Edinburgh. To MD. c1711, Died c1739.(APB)

Forbes, George, Aberdeen. Married **Elizabeth Gordon** of Beldorny. Emigrated c1753. Merchant and planter in St. Thomas, Jamaica. D.pre 1766. (APB)

Forbes, Hugh, A Scottish indentured servant - ranaway from his master **J. Fraser** in Charleston, S.C.June 1734 (S.C.Gazette).

On page 89:

Forbes, Alexander, born in Edinburgh on 27 July 1689, second son of **Sir David Forbes** of Newhall. Provost Marshall General, and a member of H.M. Council of Jamaica. Died in Jamaica on 13 November 1729. Buried at St. Catherine's, Spanish Town, Jamaica (MIBWI)

Forbes, Francis, Aberdeenshire. Educated at King's College, Aberdeen. Graduated M.A. on 30 March 1821. Minister of St. Luke's, British Guiana. (KCA)

Forbes, Georga, Son of **Lachlan Forbes** of Edenglassie. M.D. Settled in Bermuda pre 1784.(BCG)

Forbes, Janet Born in 1735, daughter of **Thomas Forbes** of Waterton, and **Margaret Montgomerie**. D. in Antigua during 1775. (HF)

Forbes, John, Son of **Rev. John Forbes**, Moderator of the Church of Scotland. Emigrated to America with his wife **Constance Mitchell** and her sister on the *Little Ann* during 1623. Settled in Duxbury, Massachusetts, and later, during 1645, in Bridgewater, Massachussetts .Father of **Edward**. D. in 1661. (BAF)

Forbes, John, Born during 1700 in Aberdeenshire (?). Emigrated from Scotland to America between 1715 and 1729. m. **Dryden,** daughter of **Keenelm Cheseldyne**, on 1 July 1729. Father of **James**, 1731-1780. D.on 26 January 1737.(BAF).

***

Forbes, Captain, soldier, sh.14 July 1698, fr. Leith to Darien, in *Unicorn.* d. 25 July 1699 Bay of Matsanzas, Cuba. *(DP196)*

Charles, sh. 29 Nov 171, fr. Greenoak to Jamaica, in *Mary of Glasgow.* (SRO.CE60.1.7)

Donald, B. 1704, farmer, Jacobite, res. Strathnairn, tr. 20 Mar 1747, fr. London to Jamaica, in *St. George or Carteret*, arr. Jamaica, 1747. (P.2.200)(MR174)(PRO.Co13 7.58)

Donald, b. 1746, servant, res. Inverness, sh. July 1775, fr. Stornway to Philadelphia, in *Clementina,* (PRO.T47.12)

George, res. Aberdeenshire, pre 1781, sett. St. Anne, jamaica (APB.4.96)

George, res. Deer, Aberdeenshire, pts. **Thomas** and **Margaret Forbes**, sh. 1711, sett. Md., d. 1739, PC-Cpr1742. (APB.3.95)

George, mechant and planter, res. Aberdeen, sh. 1753, sett. St. Thomas, Jamaica, m. **Elizabeth Gordon** of Beldorny, d. pre 1766. (APB.2.5)

George, planter, res. Aberdeen, sett. St. Anne, Jamaica. d. June 1781 Charleston, S.C.(APB4.96)

George, Jacobite, tr. 7 May 1716, fr. Liverpool to S.C., in *Susannah.* (SPC.1716.309) (CTB31.206)

Janet, B. 1757, servant, res. Inverness, sh. July 1775 fr. Stornaway to Philadelphia, in *Clementina(PRO.T47.12)*

Jean, res. Aberdeenshire,m. **Ludovick Grant**, of Culnakyle, d. June 1781 Charleston, S.C. (APB.4.96)

John, res. Barnia, Aberdeenshire, sh. 1684, to East N.J.,sett. Perth Amboy, N.J.

(Insh263)

John, b.1740s, clergyman, res. Aberdeenshire, pts. Archibald Forbes of Deskrie, sh. 1764, sett. St. Augustine E Fla, m. Dorothy Murray, ch. James John Ralph, d.1783 England.(EMA28)(BLG2688) (HF3840

John, b. 1749, Blacksmith,sh. Sept. 1774, fr. London to Jamaica, in *Standlinch.(*PRO.T479/11)

Margaret, infanticide, res. Kirkton of Tough Ab Aberdeenshire, tr. June 1755, fr. Aberdeen to VA. , in *Hope.*

Robert, clergyman, sh. 1707, to Carolina (EMA27*)*

Thomas, farmer, Jacobite, res. Cushnie Abedeenshire, tr. 24 May 1716, fr. Liverpool to Va., in *Friendship*, arr. Md. Aug.1716(SPC.1716.3110(JAB .1.1510(HM387).

William, shoemaker, res. Aberdeen, sh. 1767, sett. Quebec, d. Apr. Quebec.(APB.4.89)

William.merchant, res. Nether Whidlemont, sett. Jamaica, d. pre 1783, (SRO.SH.19.7.1783)

***

Forbes, William, from Aberdeen d. 1890 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

***

Mr. George Forbes, age 57 years, d. 29 August 1818, on the brig Harmony, a native of Aberdeen, Scotland. Notice published 3 September in *The Columbian Museum and Savannah Gazette.*

***

1790 Census Virginia

Forbes, Peter, Shenandoah County, p.65

William, Amerherst County, p.48

Forbus, Mary, Amerherst County,p.48

Mary, Amerherst County, p.84

William, Amerherst County, p.84

***

1820 Census Virginia

Forbes, John, mason, 122, ?

John, Fran, 145,?

John, Henrico, 176, Richmond

John R. , Fran, 145,?

Lemuel, NOrfolk, 123, ?

Murray, stafford, 171,?

Nathaniel S., Norf, 123,?

William, Augusta, 012, ?

William, Nels, 194,?

1870 Census West Virginia name, county, page, township

Forbes, William, Kanawha , 149, Loudon

Duncan, Mason, 164, Cologne

James, Brooke, 521, Wellsburg

Joseph C., Ohio, 152, W. Wheeling

Julian A., Putnam, 330, Scott

Mary J., Mason, 072, Union

Robert, Harrison,090, Clark

Samuel, Wood, 3701, Parkersurg

Thomas, Mason, 166, Cooper

Thomas, Brooke, 524, Wellsburg

Thomas, Brooke, 505, Cross Creek.

William R. , Raleigh, 301, Clear Fork

William, Brooke, 521, Welsburg

Forbs, Donald, Ohio, 158, W. Wheeling

***

From the *Ministerial Directory of Presbyterian Ministers:*

Forbis, James McCombs born 22 November 1868, died 12 March 1941

Forbis, Robert Lee, Jr. Born Guilford County, N.C. (Age 8 August 1811)

***

Surrey County, Virginia

Forbis, Isabella testified on land sale (% May 1675) by **Wm. Marrilowe** to **James Alsope**, dated 1670.

Forbis, James was part of a jury called to view the body of a dead man. page 229, Book II

Newberry County, Virginia

9 April 1810, willed to **Caty Forbis** by **Nancy Rickard** will 17-9 (Box 17 p.9) , *Newberry County, S.C. Estates.*

***

North Carolina Land Patents, Patent Book 5

2423 page 127
John Forbes 20 November 1739, 320 acres in Beaufort County on the South side of Tarr River between **Cornelious Tyrus** and **Samuel Tyrus**, joining the river.
2689 Page 188, **John Forbes** 13 March 1745, 320 acres in Beaufort.
3323, page 328 **John Forbes**, 20 April 1745, 500 acres in Beaufort County, on the South side of the Tarr River, joining **William Ham** and a meadow.
2418 page 126 **John Forbes** 11 March 1740, 400 acres in Beaufort County on South Side of Pamplico River, joining the Bridge Branch, **Nevill's** Line, and the Wolf Pit Branch.

***

Georgia

7 April 1767 Granted to **John Forbes** for 200 acres of land in the parish of St. Phillip. rec'd 6 March 1767.
5 July 1768 to **Donald Forbes** for 200 acres of land in the parish of St. James. registered 12 July 1768.

***

Forbes, Arthur married **Ebbie Johnson** 1 March 1803, Book 2, page 93, Worth County, Georgia
Forbes, C.M. m **L.P. Johnson**, 19 August 1889, p. 167 - 3W, Worth County, Georgia

***

Carroll County, Georgia

Forbes, E.W. (Bride) married **Fran Alams** 21 October 1894, H-245
Forbes, Maggie E. m. **Wm. A. Smith** 13 October 1889, G-246
Forbes, Melissa B. m. **James Hutchens** 15 January 1875, K-1 298
Forbes, George I. m. **Elizabeth W. Bryant** on ? 1800, Book G, p. 34
Forbes, James F. , age 15, boarding with **Edwin P. Sherup** and family, 1880 census
Forbes, George, Co. A. 21 st Georgia Inf CSA, buried Whitesburg City Cemetary.
Forbes, Ann, wife of **J.M.** died 17 June 1874, Buried Bonner Cemetary, Carrollton.
Forbes, JM. B. 13 Nov 1800, d. 1 Aug 1895, buried Bonner Cemetary, carrollton.

Troup County, Georgia
Hillview Cemetary - Morgan Street/Franklin Road

Lot 66; 1. George B. Forbes 1843-1896
2&3. Adults, no markers
4-5-6-7 Infants, no markers

Lot 149 Family Plot
1. **Irene Cuningham Cameron**
2.?
3. **Mary C. Forbes** "Mother" 1850-1918
{Sexton's records: Mr. **Joseph C. Forbes** July 1847/Dec 29, 1896 of paralysis;
Mary C. Forbs(sic) 1848/12-31-1918 Born Ga. d. of nephritis (Old Cemetary), Cunningham lot.}

Lot 1063;
1. **William Bonner Forbus** 2-10-1907/6-5-1989
2. **Lucille Rutledge Forbus**, wife 11-14-1908/

***

Troup County, Georgia

Wesley Forbes, Sr. 1827 Winner, land lot #314, 5th District, Jasper
Wesley Forbes to **Charles Forbes**, Deed Book B, p. 477
Gilbert Forbes lived on street South of the square, La Grange; was partner of **Bogert&Forbes**, Merchants and Tailors (5/1855){*Superior Court Records 1854-1856*}

1830 Troup County Census lists **Clement Forbes**, 2 adults, 1; in 1840 census, he is listed with 4 adults, 3 children.

1850 Troup County Census lists **John M. Forbes** with $6,500 real estate and 19 slaves.

Blue Springs Cemetary, Cherokee County, Georgia

324 **George Forbes** 1829=1917
334 **Nancy Forbes** 1840-

1917
335 **Alfred Forbes** 1873-1895
336 **William F. Forbes** 1870-1891
337 **Robert L. Forbes** 1868-1894
338 **Robert Forbes** 1824-1901
339 **Malinda Forbes** 1824-1911
340 **John H. Forbes** 1846-1920
341 **Salley Ann Allen** 1860-1902
345 **Frank Forbes** infant
354 **Alice Forbes** 1899-1901

Washington Cemetary, East Half, Rogers County, Georgia

106 **Jess L. Forbes** 1886-1932
Eliza F. Forbes 1881-1919

Crittendon Cemetary, Adair County, Georgia

18 **Nancy . Forbes** 1839-1908

***

Alabama

Wills:

Forbes, John ,Mobile,Book 1,1813-1837, p. 153

Roger, Montgomery, Book 5, 1863-1887, p.80

Thomas, Mobile, Book 2, p. 1864-1907, p.64

Misc:

Forbes, A.G. m. **Clara De-Witt**, 24 September 1886, Montgomery.

Forbes, Mary E. P., m. Charles Batre of Mobile, 30 November 1853 in Huntsvlle, by Newberry.

Forbs, Chambers County, sec. 1 Tsp 21, Range 45, on 6-15-1835in Montgomery land Office

Forbush, Alexander in Jackson County in 1840.

***

Calhoun County, Alabama

Forbs, John H. m. **Carrie Snow**, 14 August 1890 by **Henry Allen**, Book D, p.148

Forbes, Wyley m. **Arena Kirksey**, 20 December 1893 by **Henry Allen**, mg, Book D, p 417

Forbes, Bunk m. **Evaline Cunningham**, 22 December 1878, by **Garrett**, MG, Book b-2, p 79

Forbs, Wesley m. **Fanny Allen**, 31 Jan 1869, Book A-2, p.215

Forbs, Wm. P. m. **Sarah E. McCully** 14 MAr 1866, p 90, Book A-2

Forbes, Betty m. **Hosey Hawkins**, Book A-2, p.548, 23 December 1876

***

Clay County, Alabama

Forbus, M.L. (Bride), m. **Newton Pettis**, 3 Feb 1894, by **A.J. Moor**, mg, Book F, p.20

Forbus, O.O. m. **Josie McKay**, 24 Dec 1894 by **W. H. Griffin**, JP, Book E

***

Randolph County, Alabama, Births

Forbes, R.L. and Louisa Beat 4, b. 2 Apr 1894, male child

Forbes, Henry and **Louisa** Beat 4 , male child, 2 May 1896

Forbes, Bud and **Louisa,** Beat 4, female child,2 mAy 1896

Forbes, Mr. and Mrs. **Bud,** female child, b. 27 Apr 1900

***

Mobile County, Alabama

Forbes, C. G. lived on Conception Street 1857

Forbes, Thomas, *Orphan's Court Minutes*, Book 2, pp 249-250, 1837-1842

***

Queries will be accepted for free from subscribers, and printed as space allows.

My husband, **Durward**, is a descendant of **John McEver Forbes**, son of **Arthur** and **Margaret McEver Forbes** of Georgia and Alabama. John was born in 1800 and died in 1895. We are looking for more information on Arthur, d. 1803, Jackson County, Georgia, and **Arthur's** father, **Colin Forbes**. **James A. Forbes**, son of **J.M**. and **Azubah Forbes**, Married **Frances C. Jennings** in Troup County, Georgia. Their son, **Robert M**. was born 1869 in Alabama, according to the 1870 Alabama census. Where is **Ralph**, son of **J.M**. and thought by many to be the father of **Robert M.?** J.M. married **Azubah McNeas** in Jackson County, Georgia. She died in 1844. Where? Who were her parents? Who were the parents of **F. Jennings Forbes**? **Robert** married **Mary (Mollie) Denney** in Troup County, Georgia. She died c 1900. Where is she buried? Who were her parents? **Caroline Stafford Forbes**, c/o
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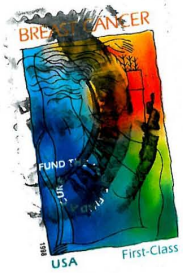

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Pascagoula, MS 39580

The Family

Of

John McEver Forbes

By
Caroline Stafford Forbes

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